AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1-59. (Canceled)

60. (Currently Amended) A method for providing passive immune protection to a patient in need thereof comprising:

administering enriched or purified intimin protein to an animal ~~to a host~~ to generate anti-intimin antibodies; and

administering an amount of the generated anti-intimin antibodies from the animal ~~from the host~~ to the patient effective to provide passive immune protection to the patient, ~~patient;~~

wherein the anti-intimin antibodies block binding of enterohemorrhagic *E. coli* to a mammalian cell.

61-65. (Canceled)

66. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 60, wherein the animal is ~~host is an animal~~ chosen from at least one of a domesticated animal, wildlife, and a laboratory animal.

67. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 66, wherein the **[[host]]** animal is a cow, pig, rabbit, or mouse.

68. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 67, wherein the cow, pig, rabbit, or mouse is milk-producing.

69. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68, wherein the patient is an offspring of the milk-producing cow, pig, rabbit, or mouse.

70. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 67, wherein the patient is a newborn.

71. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 60, further comprising administering the amount of the generated anti-intimin antibodies through at least one of milk and colostrum.

72. (Canceled)

73. (Previously Presented) A method of providing a safer food source, comprising:

administering enriched or purified intimin protein to a first food mammal to generate anti-intimin antibodies;

administering an amount of the generated anti-intimin antibodies from the first food mammal to a second food mammal, wherein the amount of the generated anti-intimin antibodies is effective to provide passive immune protection to the second food mammal, and wherein the anti-intimin antibodies block binding of enterohemorrhagic *E. coli* to a mammalian cell; and

preparing at least one of the first and the second food mammals as a food source for human consumption.

74. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 73, wherein the first food mammal is a milk-producing mammal, and further comprising administering the amount of the generated anti-intimin antibodies directly from the milk-producing mammal to its offspring.

75. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 74, further comprising ~~birthing the offspring, and~~ preparing at least one of the offspring and at least one of the first and the second food mammals as a food source for human consumption.

76. (Currently Amended) A method for providing a safer food source, by providing a food mammal with protection from enterohemorrhagic *E. coli* infection comprising:

administering enriched or purified intimin protein <u>to an animal</u> ~~to a host~~ to generate anti-intimin antibodies; and

administering an amount of the generated anti-intimin antibodies from the animal ~~from the host~~ to the food mammal effective to provide passive immune protection to the food mammal, ~~mammal;~~ wherein the anti-intimin antibodies block binding of enterohemorrhagic *E. coli* to a mammalian cell, and wherein the safer food source is derived from the food mammal, and the food mammal is chosen from at least one of a domesticated mammal and wildlife.

77. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 76, wherein said food mammal is at least one of a cow, pig, and rabbit.

78. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 76, further comprising preparing said at least one food mammal as a food source for human consumption.

79. (Canceled)

80. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 76, wherein the food mammal is a milk-producing mammal.

81. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 76, wherein the food mammal is a cow or a calf.

82. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 81, further comprising preparing the cow or calf as a food source for human consumption.

83. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 60, wherein the administration of the enriched or purified intimin protein is via injection.

84. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 83, wherein the injection is intraperitoneal, intravenous, subcutaneous, or intramuscular.

85. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 76, wherein the administration of the enriched or purified intimin protein is via injection.

86. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 85, wherein the injection is at least one of intraperitoneal, intravenous, subcutaneous, and intramuscular.

87. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 60, wherein the administration of the enriched or purified intimin protein is via ingestion, gavage, or intranasal inoculation.

88. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 76, wherein the administration of the enriched or purified intimin protein is via ingestion, gavage, or intranasal inoculation.

89. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 60, wherein the administration of the enriched or purified intimin protein further comprises at least one adjuvant.

90. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 76, wherein the administration of the enriched or purified intimin protein further comprises at least one adjuvant.

91. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 73, wherein at least one of the first and second food mammals is at least one of a cow, pig, and rabbit.

92. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 91, wherein the administration of the enriched or purified intimin protein is via injection.

93. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 73, wherein the injection is intraperitoneal, intravenous, subcutaneous, or intramuscular.

94. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 73, wherein the administration of the enriched or purified intimin protein is via ingestion, gavage, or intranasal inoculation.

95. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 73, wherein the administration of the enriched or purified intimin protein further comprises at least one adjuvant.

96. (Currently Amended) A method for providing a laboratory mammal with passive immune protection from enterohemorrhagic *E. coli* infection comprising:

administering enriched or purified intimin protein to an animal ~~to a host~~ to generate anti-intimin antibodies; and

administering an amount of the generated anti-intimin antibodies from the host to the laboratory mammal, wherein the amount of the generated anti-intimin antibodies is effective to provide passive immune protection to said laboratory mammal, ~~mammal;~~ and wherein the anti-intimin antibodies block binding of enterohemorrhagic *E. coli* to a mammalian cell.

97. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 60, wherein the enriched or purified intimin protein is recombinant intimin.

98. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 97, wherein the recombinant intimin comprises a histidine-tag, and wherein the histidine-tag is optionally removed prior to administration.

99. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 73, wherein the enriched or purified intimin protein is recombinant intimin.

100. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 99, wherein the recombinant intimin comprises a histidine-tag, and wherein the histidine-tag is optionally removed prior to administration.

101. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 76, wherein the enriched or purified intimin protein is recombinant intimin.

102. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 101, wherein the recombinant intimin comprises a histidine-tag, and wherein the histidine-tag is optionally removed prior to administration.

103. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 96, wherein the enriched or purified intimin protein is recombinant intimin.

104. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 103, wherein the recombinant intimin comprises a histidine-tag, and wherein the histidine-tag is optionally removed prior to administration.